

# National Fire Plan

Department of the Interior and US Department of Agriculture

[www.fireplan.gov](http://www.fireplan.gov)



## FY 2003 Programs in Idaho

The USDA Forest Service (FS) and the Department of the Interior (DOI) agencies are in the third year of successful implementation of National Fire Plan (NFP) activities. The NFP was developed in August 2000, following a landmark wildland fire season, with the intent of actively responding to severe wildland fires and their impacts to communities while assuring sufficient firefighting capacity for the future. The NFP addresses five key points: Firefighting, Rehabilitation, Hazardous Fuels Reduction, Community Assistance, and Accountability.

(dollars displayed in thousands)

| USDA / DOI                                       | Actual 2002    | **Estimated 2003 |
|--|----------------|------------------|
| <b>Preparedness</b>                              | 100,630        | 63,089           |
| <b>*Suppression</b>                              |                |                  |
| <b>Operations</b>                                |                |                  |
| Hazardous Fuel                                   | 26,055         | 26,914           |
| Rehabilitation                                   | 11,218         | 5,467            |
| Fire Facilities                                  | 204            |                  |
| Research and Development                         | 0              |                  |
| Joint Fire Sciences                              | 0              |                  |
| Forest Health Management                         | 656,000        | 325              |
| State Fire Assistance                            | 4,015          | 2,965            |
| Volunteer Fire Assistance /Rural Fire Assistance | 1,277          | 998              |
| Economic Action Program                          | 78             | 65               |
| <b>TOTAL:</b>                                    | <b>144,133</b> | <b>99,823</b>    |

\* Suppression costs for Idaho totaled \$71.2 million in 2002.

\*\* Actual funding will be displayed in the 2003 Annual Performance Report.

## Program Highlights:

- National Fire Plan funding continues to have a direct, positive impact on Idaho's rural communities for training, fire prevention, equipment, and fire mitigation planning. More than 100 rural fire departments have received funding through the Rural Fire Assistance Program of the Department of the Interior.
- The Idaho state offices of the Bureau of Land Management will present 32 Firewise community workshops to educate interested individuals on the concepts of living safe in fire prone areas.
- Idaho Falls hosted the annual workshop of the Northern Rockies Coordinating Group Prevention and Education Committee. The workshop, funded by the National Fire Plan, provided wildland firefighters from state, local, and federal agencies an opportunity to receive further training and information on wildland urban interface areas, Firewise, mitigation grants, and agency cooperation.

## Fire Preparedness and Facilities

- Preparedness Resources
  - ≡ USDA Forest Service will maintain preparedness resources at the 2002 level.
  - ≡ Department of the Interior will have a total of 967 firefighting personnel, 87 engines, 2 helicopters, 8 water/foam tenders, 9 dozers, and 4 airtankers.
- Facilities
  - ≡ Department of the Interior will provide \$236,000 in funding for the Lower Snake River fire administration building and \$155,000 for the Boise helibase/air attack base.

## Rehabilitation

- Rehabilitation consists of 1) immediate actions to reduce threats to public safety, property and natural and cultural resources, and 2) long-term actions to help restore healthy ecosystems and replace infrastructure damaged by fire.
- DOI funding will cover ecological stabilization, reforestation (seeding, cultural protection invasive species, contour tree felling, monitoring).
- USDA Forest Service funding will be used to improve overall watershed condition and restore severely burned forests and rangelands. Projects include reforestation, watershed restoration, road and trail rehabilitation, fish and wildlife habitat restoration, planting and seeding and preventing invasive plants.

## Hazardous Fuels Reduction

- Approximately 138,000 acres are planned for hazardous fuels treatment by federal agencies; an estimated 58,000 acres will be treated in the wildland urban interface.
- An estimated \$27 million will be spent on hazardous fuels treatment work.
- Forest Health Management funding is estimated at \$325,000.

## Community Assistance

- Rural Fire Assistance (DOI): Estimated funding – \$816,000  
## 131 rural/volunteer fire departments will receive assistance.
- State Fire Assistance (FS): Estimated funding – \$2.9 million
- Volunteer Fire Assistance Program (FS): Estimated funding – \$182,000
- Economic Action Program (FS): Estimated funding – \$65,000

## Accountability

- DOI and USDA Forest Service developed a uniform set of performance measures to assess program effectiveness for FY 2003 and FY 2004 program measurement.
- DOI and USDA Forest Service, with input from the National Association of State Foresters, developed action plans for nearly all of the 23 tasks in the Implementation Plan for the 10-Year Comprehensive Strategy. The State Foresters and their partners are continuing to develop field guidance for fuels reduction projects.
- DOI and USDA Forest Service developed the National Fire Plan Operations and Reporting System (NFPORS), a common data collection and reporting system for gathering project plans and accomplishments.

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